

NEUMAN, LEROY  
(ARTIST)

DRAWER 19A

ARTIST-N

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# Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Leroy Neiman

Excerpts from newspapers and other  
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NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 1976

# LINCOLN

BY  
LEROY  
NEIMAN



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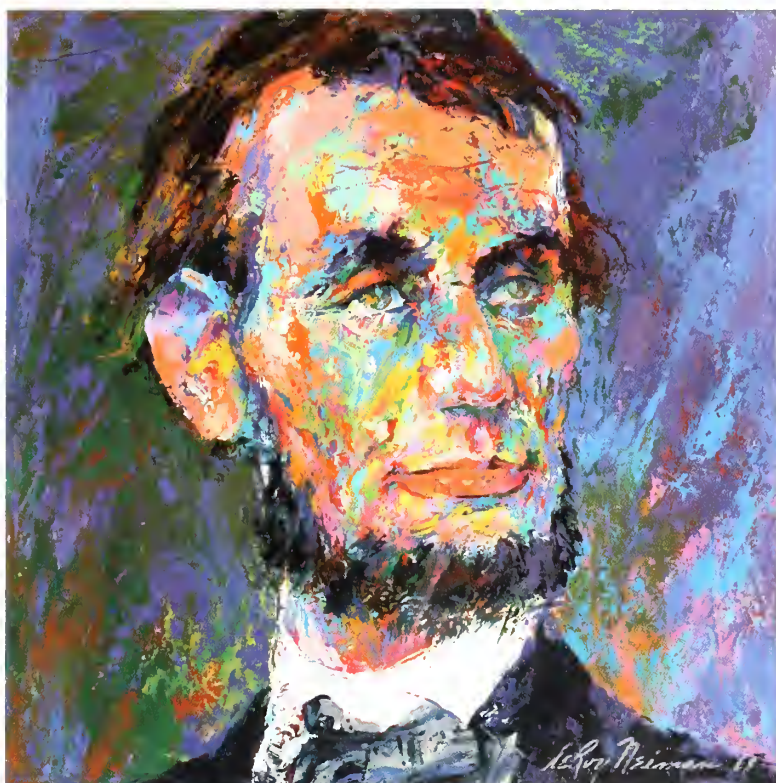
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# ABRAHAM LINCOLN

a portrait by  
LEROY NEIMAN

## LEROY NEIMAN'S LINCOLN

LeRoy Neiman enjoys a richly-deserved international reputation. His subject matter ranges from road races and other sporting and social events to cafés, walk cafés and seaside resorts.

Born in St. Paul, Minnesota, Mr. Neiman studied at the Art Institute, Chicago, and spent the following years there as a member of its faculty. After painting for years in Paris, he moved his studio to New York where he has maintained it for the past few years. His work has been exhibited in museums and galleries all over the world, among them the Carnegie International in Pittsburgh, the Corcoran in Washington, D.C., the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Arras, France, and the Galleria d'Arte in Florence, Italy. The artist has had many one-man shows from the Ohano Gallery in New York to the Galerie O'Bosc in Paris to the famed Herta and Paul Amirian Gallery in New York. Most of them sold out quickly.

He has been commissioned to execute murals for a list of distinguished publications—*Playboy*, *Time*, *Magazine*, *Paris-Match*, *Paris Review*. The *Time* cover features a Neiman painting. Among his prominent private collectors who own and cherish his work are Mr. John Roosevelt, Mrs. Mary Rockefeller, Mr. Federico Fellini, and former Illinois Governor Richard J. Kerner. Among the museums and institutions that have Neimans in their permanent collections are the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Indianapolis Institute of Art and Wodham College in England.

His numerous awards, purchase prizes and commissions include the Gold Medal at the Salon d'Automne in Paris in 1961.

Today the price of original Neimans run in the thousands of dollars. Madison Square Garden paid \$10,000 for his 10' x 6' oil "Ringside" and New York's National Academy of Sport in Art recently acquired his \$6,000 oil "Heath," a 6' x 4' horse training painting.

LeRoy Neiman is without doubt one of the most original and widely recognized artists on the contemporary art scene.

scene. His appeal, as well as his subject matter, is broad and universal.

When recently I heard that he was interested in Abraham Lincoln, and had long admired the life and achievements of our Sixteenth President, I visited with him and discussed the possibility of his executing a new portrait.

Just as every generation needs a new biography of Abraham Lincoln to satisfy the needs and relate to the problems of the times, so too do we need a new view of the man. Mr. Neiman agreed to study the problem, read some books we had provided, and carefully examine a collection of Lincoln photographs we made available to him. After a few weeks he reported back that he not only agreed to do the work, but was so enthusiastic that he had already begun. Now at last the work has been completed and we are thrilled with the result. We'd like to share it with our friends and consequently have arranged to have a special edition of the work produced.

This reproduction is 18" x 18" on a 24" x 24" mat area of finely embossed heavyweight paper stock suitable for framing.

It has been especially commissioned by us in one of the most contemporary forms of graphics. Twenty-six painstaking screens were meticulously hand cut and each color individually applied to faithfully capture the tonal values in the original work. Each copy will be signed by the artist to enhance its "collector value."

We hope you will enjoy owning it as much as we enjoyed creating it.

*Robert R. Neiman*



# LINCOLN

LeRoy Neiman is without doubt one of the most famous and widely recognized artists on the continent.

## LEROY NEIMAN'S LINCOLN

LeRoy Neiman enjoys a richly-deserved international reputation. His subject matter ranges from road races, surfing, and other sporting and social events to cathedrals, sidewalk cafes and seaside resorts.

Born in St. Paul, Minnesota, Mr. Neiman studied at the Art Institute, Chicago, and spent the following decade there as a member of its faculty. After painting for several years in Paris, he moved his studio to New York City, where he has maintained it for the past five years. His work has been exhibited in museums and galleries around the world, among them the Carnegie International in Pittsburgh, the Corcoran in Washington, D.C., the Musée de Beaux-Arts in Arras, France, and the Galleria Florentina d'Arte in Florence, Italy. The artist has held numerous one-man shows from the Ohano Gallery in London and the Galerie O'Bosc in Paris to the famed Hammer Gallery in New York. Most of them sold out quickly.

He has been commissioned to execute canvases for a list of distinguished publications—*Playboy*, *Harper's Magazine*, *Paris-Match*, *Paris Review*. The March 1, 1968 *Time* cover features a Neiman painting. Among the prominent private collectors who own and cherish original Neimans are Mr. John Roosevelt, Mrs. Mary Hemingway, Mr. Federico Fellini, and former Illinois Governor Otto Kerner. Among the museums and institutions that have Neimans in their permanent collections are the Minneapolis Institute of Art and Wodham College, Oxford, England.

His numerous awards, purchase prizes and accolades include the Gold Medal at the Salon d'Art Moderne in Paris in 1961.

Today the price of original Neimans run into thousands of dollars. Madison Square Garden paid \$18,000 for his 10' x 6' oil "Ringside" and New York's National Museum of Sport in Art recently acquired his \$6,000 "Newmarket Heath," a 6' x 4' horse training painting.

LeRoy Neiman is without doubt one of the most popular and widely recognized artists on the contemporary world

scene. His appeal, as well as his subject matter, is broad and universal.

When recently I heard that he was interested in Abraham Lincoln, and had long admired the life and achievements of our Sixteenth President, I visited with him and discussed the possibility of his executing a new portrait.

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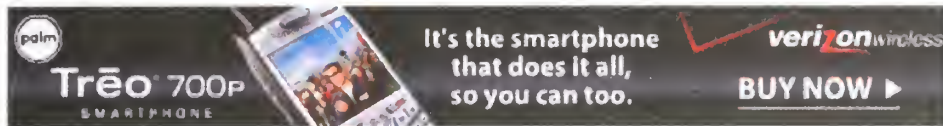
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### Ill. agency pays \$100K for Neiman's Lincoln

By Paul Merrion  
May 09, 2007

(Crain's) — The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency is acquiring LeRoy Neiman's 1969 painting of Abraham Lincoln, one of the best-known 20th-century portraits of the 16th U.S. president.

The painting, purchased for \$100,000 with non-taxpayer funds, is slated to be displayed at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum in Springfield as well as in traveling exhibits as the museum gears up for the 2009 bicentennial of the Great Emancipator's birth.

"I think it's wonderful it's there," says Mr. Neiman, a former Chicagoan who now lives in New York City. "It's traveled all over the world."

Best known for paintings of sporting events and athletes, Mr. Neiman studied and taught at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. His early work appeared frequently in magazine and clubs.

"Leroy Neiman has an international reputation and is one of the more renowned artists of the 20th century and 21st century," says Illinois State Historian Thomas Schwartz. "He's one of the few modern artists" whose impressionistic style is so distinctive and so well-known that "most people can properly guess who did the painting."

His painting of Lincoln was the first in a series of historical figures, including Napoleon Bonaparte and Winston Churchill, he's put on canvas. Commissioned by Ralph Newman, the late founder of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop in Chicago, the painting was once featured on the cover of the Chicago Tribune's Sunday magazine and later was made into limited edition silk-screen prints signed by the artist that currently sell for about \$3,500 apiece.

In an interview, Mr. Neiman says he was "excited" about painting Lincoln and studied several Lincoln statues in Chicago for inspiration.



"It's a good one," he says. "I've always felt good about it."

The state agency is buying the painting from Bernard Slepak, president of Highland Park-based History House Inc., a sales and promotion firm. Mr. Slepak, a Civil War buff and close friend of Mr. Newman, says he originated the idea and paid for the painting, with Mr. Newman facilitating the commissioning of the work. Mr. Slepak later created the silk-screen version of the painting in the mid-1970s.

"I have been looking for a home for the original," Mr. Slepak says. "I felt it needed a home where the public could see it."

Funds for the acquisition will come from the Lincoln Library's "dedicated revenue stream," and no taxpayer dollars will be involved, Mr. Schwartz says. The artwork was originally listed on the state's procurement Web site at \$26,000, but that was a typographical error.



Image of a serigraph from Neiman's Lincoln portrait

The \$100,000 purchase price is twice the highest amount the historic preservation agency has paid for a painting before, although it once paid \$175,000 for a bronze casting of Lincoln's hands and face. Half of the money for that purchase came from donated funds.



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